

2-28-2009

## Resist Newsletter, Jan-Feb 2009

Resist

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/resistnewsletter>

---

### Recommended Citation

Resist, "Resist Newsletter, Jan-Feb 2009" (2009). *Resist Newsletters*. 372.  
<https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/resistnewsletter/372>

*Funding social change since 1967*

# RESIST

ISSN 0897-2613 • Vol. 18 #1

*A Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority*

January-February 2009

## Organizers Speak to President Obama

*Advice to the new administration from RESIST grantees across the country*

For this issue of the RESIST Newsletter, we asked five organizers – and RESIST grantees – around the country what advice they would give to the new administration for real change in 2009. Here are their responses.

### Operation Welcome Home Madison, Wisconsin

Dear President Obama,  
We'd like to congratulate you on your win – our win. Seeing an African-American elected president moved us to tears and celebration. As we continue to build the change we want to see from below, here are some things we'd like you to do as our president.

Mr. Obama, you gotta put a check on what's happening in the prison system. We want a moratorium on building more prisons. There are too many police officers surveilling us and locking us up. Stop funding the criminalization of poor people and communities of color and put that money into programs like ours that build our power and meet our basic needs.

The system is geared to force us onto the streets and put us back in jail. Give people returning from prison a second chance, so we're not sentenced to lifetimes of punishment because we can't

get a job. Stop the background checks and other barriers for returning prisoners so that poor people and people in wheelchairs don't have to wait two years to apply for subsidized housing or get a job. We'd like to see those 2.5 million jobs reaching our people FOR REAL!

We need affordable housing, not more tax breaks for condos or bail-out money for banks. We need an end to the war in Iraq. We need health care

for people who can't afford it. Reach out to people on the streets. Prove that you're going to keep social services up, not cut them!

It's the government's responsibility to provide the resources to make sure that everyone has their basic needs met. Make funding available to groups that



"Sembramos..." by Kevin Caplicki, [www.justseeds.org](http://www.justseeds.org).  
Text reads, "We sow the seeds of revolution."

work for social justice so we don't have to compete with each other and so that the burden doesn't fall solely on funds like RESIST.

We want an end to the unemployment that plagues our communities because major companies are going overseas.

*continued on page twelve*

### Inside:

Organizers Speak to Obama..	p. 2
The Year in Funding.....	p. 4
2008 RESIST Grantees.....	p. 5
Grant Information .....	p. 11



# Organizers' Advice on Real Change in 2009

## POWER

Olympia, Washington

LINDSAY DAY, RICHARD LOPEZ and  
MONICA PEABODY

The result of our presidential election is a testament to grassroots organizing, and POWER (Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights) is proud to be a part of the work that resulted in one of the highest voter turn-outs in history. We worked together to register ourselves, our friends and neighbors, and we took the time to become informed voters. We enjoyed lively discussions about the process of voting, whether it is worthwhile, and what people with felonies can do to restore their right to vote. For the first time in years, many felt that their presidential vote made a difference.

Now we are asking President Obama not to forget the youth, people of color, and low-income Americans who influenced this election by voting in unprecedented numbers. We feel concern as we watch him fill his cabinet with the familiar faces who brought to us such atrocities as welfare reform and the Iraq war. We will continue to organize. We want our new president to end the atrocious oc-

cupations in Iraq and Afghanistan that are robbing our coffers of funds to feed, house, educate and provide health care for our own people.

We are tired of living in a wealthy nation where single mothers and their children are the poorest population. Poverty is not just a buzzword for candidates during an election, but a gut-wrenching, life-threatening reality for millions of children, elders and families. It is our fervent hope that President Obama will commit to true anti-poverty solutions, and recognize that caregiving is valuable work that contributes to our nation's economy. Placing artificial time limits on public assistance creates anxiety, forcing parents into dead end, low wage work, and ensuring a life of poverty for their families.

We ask President Obama to end time limits on public assistance, increase opportunities for living wages, education, childcare, and guaranteed child support. We have seen poverty increase, especially among families of color, since welfare reform legislation twelve years ago. We have seen the low-income members of our nation disproportionately shoulder the tax burden. Now we ask that our

government increase taxes on the twenty percent of our population who own fifty-five percent of the wealth, to ensure that no child in this nation will continue to face a lack of basic necessities or opportunity.

*POWER is an organization of low-income parents and allies advocating for a strong social safety net while working toward a world where children and caregiving are truly valued, and the devastation of poverty has been eradicated. POWER is a member-driven, grassroots organization, making our decisions by consensus. Director Monica Peabody is POWER's Director, Richard Lopez is on the Board, Lindsay Day works as an Intern.*

## GI Rights Hotline

New Mexico

MARIA SANTELLI

It's Sunday and I'm still in bed when the phone rings. "Jake" was in an accident three days ago and has a broken arm. He hasn't gone to the hospital yet because he's afraid. "Will they know I'm AWOL? Can the hospital turn me in?"

Six months ago Jake decided to go AWOL because he couldn't go back to Iraq.

"Getting medical care at a civilian hospital shouldn't trigger anything," I say, but it won't look good that he waited three days to come in after an accident. "Go to the hospital, Jake. Get treatment. If anything happens, call us back. We'll help you."

The next call comes in a few minutes

after Jake and I hang up. The next one a few moments after that. It continues like this all day.

A mom needs help for her son who has been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) after returning from the GED camp run by the military. "What could have happened that would cause my son to come home from the military's GED camp with PTSD?" she asks me, beside herself with sadness and anger and determined to get her son out of the National Guard.

Next call: "Greg" is AWOL, almost a year now. "I don't even know where to start." I offer to ask a few questions to see if that'll help.

"Are you active duty?"

"Well...sort of...."

"Have you discharged yourself?"

He laughs, nervously. "Yeah." And

*continued on page four*



For information and grant guidelines, write to:  
RESIST, 259 Elm Street, Suite 201  
Somerville, MA 02144  
617-623-5110 ~ [info@resistinc.org](mailto:info@resistinc.org)

*Resist Newsletter* is published six times a year by RESIST, Inc. Subscriptions are available free to prisoners and to individuals for a suggested donation of \$20/year. The views expressed in articles, other than editorials, are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the RESIST staff or board.

RESIST Staff: Robin Carton  
Malika McCray  
Yafreisy Mejia  
Christy Pardew

RESIST Intern: Jean Smith

Newsletter Editor: Christy Pardew

Printing: Red Sun Press

*Printed on Recycled Paper with Soy Ink*

[www.resistinc.org](http://www.resistinc.org)





## Thin Air Community Radio Spokane, Washington

LUPITO FLORES

Was it Jello Biafra or Ralph Nader who first said, "Be the media!"? I think what they meant was, don't just try to get your message out – be the messenger and create your own media.

That's just what the burgeoning media democracy movement is doing. People around the world are taking back the airwaves for public, not commercial, use. People are getting behind the documentary camera lens instead of vying for 15 seconds on the nightly local news. It's everything from bloggers and unlicensed community radio stations to full power non-commercial radio and community TV.

The Obama Administration will offer a breath of fresh air and possibly a reversal of the most egregious media policies such as the democracy-threatening trend of media consolidation, where local media are being gobbled up by huge corporations.

I look forward to working with the new administration, a new FCC commissioner, and a friendlier Congress. Obama's position paper on media says his administration would "encourage diversity in the ownership of broadcast media, promote the development of new media outlets for expression of diverse viewpoints, and clarify the public interest obligations of broadcasters who occupy the nation's spectrum." This is hopeful and gives a nod to the "new media" landscape.

KYRS-LP FM – Thin Air Community Radio is one example of new media. In late 1999 it sprouted out of the resolve of local environmental activists who refused to be continually misrepresented – or not represented at all – in the media.

They became the media. Thin Air Radio, on the air since October 2003, is one of the few Low Power FM community radio stations in the country, and its home, Spokane, Washington, is one of the largest cities to get a Low Power license. KYRS airs the only locally-produced Spanish-language, Native American, African-American, Iranian-American,

environmental news and youth programming, to name a few.

Other recent victories foretell a brighter future. The FCC recently voted to allow empty frequencies between television channels to be used to connect people to the Internet. Net Neutrality, broadband Internet access for all, is gaining speed in Congress, as is public outcry and congressional action over media ownership and efforts to stop the rush to let the biggest media conglomerates get even bigger.

Here's the message to President Obama, the FCC and Congress:

- Start seriously connecting remote and disenfranchised communities to the Inter-

*continued on page ten*

## Center for Artistic Revolution Little Rock, Arkansas

RANDI ROMO

Dear Mr. President:

It is with mixed emotions that I write this to you. My first thought is to offer my condolences in addition to my congratulations. It is quite a quagmire that you have inherited from your prede-

cessor. There's the damage to our nation both here and abroad from our invasion of Iraq and our continued military actions in Afghanistan. Then there's the collapse of much of our private financial sector, the highest loss of jobs in decades and the housing crisis. Add to the mix the rank and file issues that have been ongoing challenges – poverty, health care, education, living wage jobs – and, well, I'm sure you know far better than I what a lurch we are in.

Your election brought such joy that we as a nation have overcome some measure of the horrific history of the oppression of Black people, although we must be ever mindful that your election does not erase the continued debilitating effects of racism in its many insidious forms across the country. Nevertheless, your election is an auspicious testimonial to the progress we have made.

I must tell you the occasion of my sorrow in the midst of my happiness regarding your election. Regrettably the lessons learned from our past, the willingness to move forward on equality issues, has not been extended to all Americans.

In the November 2008 elections, we saw the rights of some Americans

*continued on page twelve*

*Each year, many RESIST supporters honor their colleagues, family, friends and mentors by making contributions in their names. As is our custom, RESIST acknowledges those individuals in the list below and celebrates the spirit and convictions of these individuals, along with many others who remain unnamed but have affected us – personally and as a movement – by their tenacity, humor, love and passion.*

### In Honor Of

Philip and Daniel Berrigan  
John and Chris Coggin  
Ruth Dear  
Donna Iliff

Frank Joyce  
Marc Scott Miller  
Fred Pincus  
Stephen Shalom  
Norton Starr

### In Memory Of

Susan Bergier  
Donna Cremans  
Madeline Gilford  
Mitchell Goodman  
Gene Harasack  
Leslie D'Cora Holmes  
Gregory Irons  
Hans Koning

Sharon Kurtz  
Michael Olson  
Grace Paley  
Alex Redmountain  
Rabbi Michael Robinson  
Hilda Silverman  
Helen Spiegel  
Mother Pearl Stewart





# RESIST's Year in Funding

CHRISTY PARDEW

In 2008, RESIST awarded more than \$260,000 to 131 organizations around the country. These grants can be broken down into 14 categories, which are somewhat arbitrary since RESIST prefers to fund groups that work across issues, as most of our grantees do. Categorizing the grants can be helpful, however, for tracking trends in funding across years.

The largest share of grants fell into the Community Organizing and Anti-Racism category, which included 31 grantees. From California to Tennessee to Puerto Rico, grantees are engaged in effective community organizing: building a strong anti-racist left, collaborating to prevent deportations and organizing for housing justice.

The next largest category was Peace and Anti-Militarism, which included 20 grants awarded around the country. Grantees are working for justice and against war in ways that include organizing veterans of war to speak out and engaging high school students around issues of military recruitment.

Organizations working to challenge the growth of prisons follow as the next

largest category of RESIST grants. Prisoners' Rights had 11 recipients, from groups working to abolish the death penalty to those exposing the conditions at "supermax" prisons to those implementing alternatives to incarceration.

See page six for the breakdown of all 2008 RESIST grants by category.

## Online Technical Assistance Training

In 2008 RESIST, in collaboration with the Development Resource Center, began an innovative series of online technical assistance workshops for grantees on fundraising and organizational development. This format was especially effective for RESIST's rural grantees who have difficulty accessing training resources. In 2009 RESIST will partner with Appalachian Community Fund to offer a second round of online training.

## Special Awards

RESIST awards several Tribute and Memorial Grants each year. Named for organizers and social change workers, these awards keep the spirits of their namesakes alive and encourage us all to carry on their work for a better world.

Last year's recipient of the Mike Riegle Tribute Grant, given in memory of a longtime Boston organizer, was Critical Resistance, New York City. Critical Resistance works to challenge New York's reliance on prisons and police as answers to social and economic problems. They have several community projects in the South Bronx.

The Ken Hale Tribute Grant is given in memory of the life and work of a founder of RESIST, a world-renowned linguist and a committed activist. RESIST awarded last year's grant to the First Nations Prison Industrial Complex Gathering, who brought together Native American criminal justice organizers addressing prison abolition in September.

The friends and family of Sharon Kurtz have chosen RESIST as the home of a new memorial fund in her name. The Sharon Kurtz Memorial Fund commemorates the life of Sharon Kurtz, a community organizer who dedicated her life to making the world a more just and humane place for those around her. As an organizer, teacher and mother, Sharon was committed to building a progressive movement around issues of race, class, gender equity and workplace justice.

To honor the moral clarity, courage and political commitment of its founders, RESIST created a new tribute grant in 2008: the Hell Yes! Award. This grant recognizes inspiring, radical activism that cuts to the heart of RESIST's mission to challenge illegitimate authority.

In 2008, six organizations doing radical and effective work for social change were awarded Hell Yes! Grants: Carolina Justice Policy Center in Durham, North Carolina; Damayan Migrant Workers Association in New York, New York; Deported Diaspora in Revere, Massachusetts; the Economic Justice Coalition in Athens, Georgia; Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio in New York, New York; and UNETE, Center for Farm Worker Advocacy in Medford, Oregon. Read descriptions of these organizations in our 2008 grant list on the following pages.

*Christy Pardew is the editor of the RESIST Newsletter.*

*continued from page two*

## GI Rights Hotline New Mexico

Greg is depressed and suicidal. It was either kill himself, he says, or leave. "You made the right choice," I say. "You're not alone. Let's get you on the road to straightening all this out."

Greg's not alone. The Pentagon estimated in 2007 that 20,000 service members are AWOL. The GI Rights Hotline estimates twice that, maybe more. And veteran and active duty suicides are endemic.

The GI Rights Hotline is a national network of nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations – 24 in all – founded in 1995. That year it received 1,700 calls. In 2007, the network received 43,000 calls.

Most callers to the hotline have seen things and been treated in ways no one deserves – by and in the name of the

US military. Most are very young – 18, 19, 20 years old – and talk about being recruited under pressure or false promises or worse.

Truly supporting the troops means a whole lot more than slapping a yellow ribbon on your SUV. This is not your grandfather's military, and this is not The Good War.

If the Obama administration would like to actually support the troops, my advice to them is this: withdraw immediately and unconditionally from the illegal, immoral wars and occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan – bring the troops home and take care of them when they get here.

*The GI Rights Hotline provides support and resources for GIs, veterans and their families who have been hurt or left behind by the U.S. military. Maria Santelli is the coordinator of and a volunteer with the New Mexico Hotline.*



# RESIST 2008 Grant Recipients

*Funding organizing work for social, economic, environmental and racial justice*

Below is a list of organizations which received funding from RESIST in 2008, along with a brief description of their work. These grants, divided below by grant category, are made possible by the generosity of RESIST's donors. For information about grant guidelines, see page 11.

## **LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN**

**Carolina Interfaith Task Force on Central America.** *Raleigh, North Carolina.* \$900 to work through a faith-based movement to change U.S. policies that contribute to poverty and oppression in Latin America and the Carolinas.

## **COMMUNITY ORGANIZING/ ANTI-RACISM**

### **Asian American Resource Workshop.**

*Boston, Massachusetts.* \$3,000 to empower Asian Americans for full participation in U.S. society and around issues of peace, justice and equality.

**Austin Immigrant Rights Coalition.** *Austin, Texas.* \$1,000 for a coalition of immigrants, labor activists, students, interfaith and community organizations working for immigrant rights.

**Catalyst Project.** *San Francisco, California.* \$2,700 for a political education and movement building center that prioritizes anti-racist work with white sectors of the left and multiracial alliance building.

**Center for Artistic Revolution.** *North Little Rock, Arkansas.* \$3,000 to build bridges and collaborations between diverse communities through organizing initiatives that address the issues and systemic oppressions that undermine access to equality. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Center for Justice, Peace, and Environment.** *Fort Collins, Colorado.* \$3,000 to create social justice, peace, and environmental integrity through direct action, public education and community empowerment. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Central District Organization.** *Gary, Indiana.* \$1,600 to build a coalition in Gary's Midtown/Central District neighborhood that will organize for social and economic justice.

**Chelsea Latino Immigrant Committee.** *Chelsea, Massachusetts.* \$2,000

to fight discrimination against immigrants and foster their full and equal voice in community decision-making.

**Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace.** *Swanee, Tennessee.* \$900 to educate and empower the community of Franklin County and the surrounding region to take action for social, cultural and environmental change that promotes justice and peace locally, nationally and globally.

**Deported Diaspora.** *Revere, Massachusetts.* \$3,000 for a group of multiracial young organizers and youth workers collaborating to prevent deportations and change the U.S. deportation system.

**Desiree Alliance.** *Henderson, Nevada.* \$2,500 to organize sex workers and their allies to seek civil, labor and human rights.

**Hartford Organizing for Power and Equality.** *Hartford, Connecticut.* \$2,500 to enable six organizations in Hartford to work together to improve the neighborhoods and the lives of the people who live there.

**Human Dignity Coalition.** *Bend, Oregon.* \$3,000 to address issues of disability rights, sexism and homophobia in Central Oregon.

**Ilé: Organizing for Consciousness-in-Action.** *Caguas, Puerto Rico.* \$1,000 for anti-racist community organizing and Latino/a development, primarily in Puerto Rico.

**Interfaith Alliance of Idaho.** *Boise, Idaho.* \$3,000 to

work in faith-based communities examining the interrelations between racism, classism, sexism, and heterosexism in Idaho. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Interfaith Alliance of Iowa.** *Des Moines, Iowa.* \$1,000 to promote the collective voices of faith to create progressive social change by encouraging civic participation and facilitating community activism.

**Manos Unidas.** *Pittsfield, Massachusetts.* \$2,000 to work towards equality and justice for Latino, immigrant, youth and lower income community members in the region.

**Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio.** *New York, New York.* \$2,700 for an immigrant-led social justice organization in East Harlem which organizes for housing justice and against gentrification.

**National Alliance of HUD Tenants.** *Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts.* \$2,500 to mobilize HUD tenants to protect affordable HUD housing, under attack from budget cuts and owner decisions to convert to market rents, and to develop tenant leadership.

*continued on page six*



Movimiento por Justicia del Barrio rallies at New York's City Hall in March of 2008 to kick off their international housing campaign.



*continued from page five*

**Nodutdol for Korean Community Development.** *Woodside, New York.* \$2,000 to build a politically active Korean community in New York through campaigns for increased social, economic, and educational justice.

**North Dakota Human Rights Coalition.** *Fargo, North Dakota.* \$2,500 to advocate and educate for change so that all people in North Dakota enjoy full human rights.

**Olneyville Neighborhood Association.** *Providence, Rhode Island.* \$500 of emergency funding to respond to the ICE raids of July 15 in Providence and to engage in a community education and publicity campaign to deter future raids.

**The Policy Institute.** *Helena, Montana.* \$1,600 for a progressive policy think-tank that provides support and expertise for activist agendas organizing against corporate economics.

**Rhode Island HUD Tenants Organizing Project.** *Providence, Rhode Island.* \$1,600 to preserve affordable housing in Rhode Island by helping

tenants of HUD-subsidized housing organize to save their homes.

**Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality.** *Salem, Oregon.* \$3,000 to organize and advocate for equality in education, human rights, and accountability from policymakers regarding justice-based issues. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Sex Workers Outreach Project - USA.** *San Francisco, California.* \$1,500 to organize for the fundamental human rights of sex workers and their communities, focusing on ending violence and stigma through education and advocacy.

**South Carolina Progressive Network.** *Columbia, South Carolina.* \$3,000 for a statewide coalition that works to create a grassroots mechanism for affecting public policy. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Tennessee Alliance for Progress.** *Nashville, Tennessee.* \$900 for a statewide organization working to build healthy families and communities in Tennessee.

**Urban EpiCenter.** *Nashville, Tennessee.* \$2,500 to organize for racial and economic justice with a radical vision of

democracy which situates indigenous activists and poor and working-class people at the center of grassroots initiatives.

**VAMOS Unidos.** *Bronx, New York.* \$2,500 to organize Latino/a street vendors for economic and racial justice, immigrant rights and police accountability.

**Worcester Immigrant Coalition.** *Worcester, Massachusetts.* \$2,000 to organize and advocate for the rights of undocumented workers and immigrant families in Worcester.

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

**Arise for Social Justice.** *Springfield, Massachusetts.* \$3,000 for an economic justice organization run by and for low-income people.

**Contact Center.** *Cincinnati, Ohio.* \$2,500 to provide leadership training, skills development and power analysis to low- and moderate-income people.

**Economic Justice Coalition.** *Athens, Georgia.* \$3,000 to educate the community about economic disparities and to work towards implementing living wage and health benefit policies. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Food AND Medicine.** *Brewer, Maine.* \$3,000 to raise community awareness of economic justice and to address the needs and concerns of laid-off and low-income workers.

**Minnesota Citizens Federation - Northeast.** *Duluth, Minnesota.* \$900 to work towards economic justice with a particular focus on creating affordable health care for everyone.

**Operation Welcome Home.** *Madison, Wisconsin.* \$3,000 for a collaborative of homeless and previously homeless people of color working for social justice and self-determination.

**Parents Organizing for Welfare and Economic Rights: POWER.** *Olympia, Washington.* \$2,700 for an organization of low-income parents advocating for changes in the welfare system and working to eradicate poverty.

**Peace Through Interamerican Community Action.** *Bangor, Maine.* \$3,000 to engage in anti-sweatshop,

*continued on page seven*

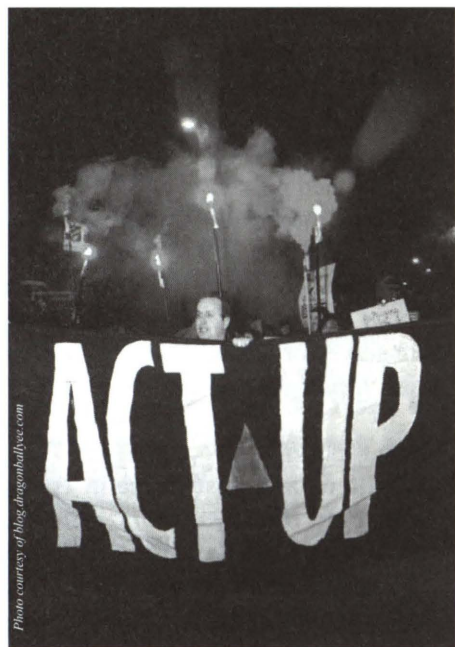
## Grant Distribution by Category

*While useful, the divisions below do not paint a complete picture of RESIST grantees. RESIST does not fund organizations by category and prefers to fund groups that organize across issue areas. Categorizing the grants, however, can be helpful for tracking trends in funding across years.*

Grant Category	# of	% of Total
Community Organizing & Anti-Racism	31	24%
Peace & Anti-Militarism	20	18%
Prisoners Rights	11	8%
Labor Rights	10	8%
Environmental Justice	10	8%
Youth	10	8%
Women	9	7%
Economic Justice	9	7%
Health, AIDS & Disability Rights	8	6%
Media & Culture	6	5%
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender	3	2%
Middle East	1	0.7%
Native American/Native Peoples Rights	1	0.7%
Latin America and the Caribbean	1	0.7%



continued from page six



ACT UP Philadelphia, 20 years old, is working to create guarantees that all people with HIV get treatment before they get sick.

labor rights and solidarity organizing.  
(Multi-year grant)

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

### Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project.

*Fossil, Oregon.* \$1,200 to promote long-term systemic social change to end root causes of ecological destruction and social injustice.

**Citizens Coal Council.** *Washington, Pennsylvania.* \$1,000 to challenge and change the practices of the coal industry to protect both people and the environment.

**Citizens for Alternatives to Radioactive Dumping.** *Albuquerque, New Mexico.* \$500 of emergency funding to organize a demonstration and \$2,000 to educate and organize around issues of nuclear contamination and the impact of the nuclear industry in New Mexico.

**Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger.** *Merrimac, Wisconsin.* \$3,000 to clean up toxic waste at Badger Army Ammunition Plant and create healthy sustainable re-use plans. (Multi-year grant)

**Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group.** *Dixon, New Mexico.* \$3,000 to monitor the health effects of weapons research, development and

production on communities downwind of Los Alamos National Laboratory.  
(Multi-year grant)

**Global Justice Ecology Project.** *Hinesburg, Vermont.* \$2,700 to advance global justice and ecological awareness through promoting an ecological analysis within the global justice movement and an economic analysis within the environmental movement.

**Oregon Toxics Alliance.** *Eugene, Oregon.* \$3,000 to expose the root causes of toxic pollution and to help Oregon communities find solutions that protect human and environmental health.  
(Multi-year grant)

**Sand Mountain Concerned Citizens.** *Ider, Alabama.* \$3,000 to organize against the growth of the corporate swine industry in densely populated rural areas of Alabama and the surrounding states.

**United Mountain Defense.** *Knoxville, Tennessee.* \$500 to protect Tennessee's environment and people from the degradation of land that results from the mountaintop removal process of coal mining.

## GLBT RIGHTS

**Center for Artistic Revolution.** *North Little Rock, Arkansas.* \$500 of emergency funding to implement the "ALL Families Matter" campaign opposing conservative foster care and adoption legislation.

**GLBT Youth in Iowa Schools Task Force.** *Des Moines, Iowa.* \$2,000 to educate Iowa's education staff on the issues that affect local GLBT youth and to develop solutions to end discrimination, bullying and harassment by these students on a daily basis.

**Iowa Pride Network.** *Des Moines, Iowa.* \$2,000 to empower students to fight homophobia and transphobia in high schools and colleges by providing leadership opportunities and organizing projects centered on social justice.

**Southerners on New Ground (SONG).** *Durham, North Carolina.* \$3,000 to connect and sustain people organizing across lines of race, class, culture, gender and sexuality.

**HEALTH/AIDS/DISABILITY RIGHTS ACT UP Philadelphia.** *Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.* \$500 of emergency funding to organize a large scale protest and \$3,000 to fight the global AIDS crisis by addressing the basic health disparities and social injustices which perpetuate the epidemic at home and abroad. (Multi-year grant)

**ADAPT - Colorado.** *Denver, Colorado.* \$3,000 to empower people with disabilities to integrate with full and equal rights into all parts of society.  
(Multi-year grant)

**Civilian Medical Resources Network.** *Taos, New Mexico.* \$1,600 to organize around the unmet medical and psychological needs of GIs as a means of working towards peace and the reduction of militarism.

**Deaf & Deaf-Blind Committee on Human Rights.** *North Olmsted, Ohio.* \$1,250 to educate and organize around the basic economic human rights to communication, housing, health care, education and living wage jobs for deaf and deaf-blind people.

continued on page eight

## Technical Assistance Grants

Current and previous RESIST grantees are eligible to apply for technical assistance grants of up to \$500 to enable them to increase their internal organizational skills and capacity. In 2008, these grants were awarded to:

Brazilian Women's Group  
*Allston, Massachusetts*

Coalition for Prisoners' Rights  
*Santa Fe, New Mexico*

Development Resource Center  
*Arlington, Massachusetts*

Economic Justice Coalition  
*Athens, Georgia*

Fight for Lifers - West  
*Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

Reflect and Strengthen  
*Dorchester, Massachusetts*

South Carolina Progressive Network  
*Columbia, South Carolina*



*continued from page seven*

## **Disabled in Action of Pennsylvania.**

*Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.* \$2,000 for an accessibility grant to provide sign language interpretation at ADAPT's 25th anniversary celebration of disability rights organizing.

**Freedom Center.** *Northampton, Massachusetts.* \$3,000 to unite people with mental illness to organize against psychiatric abuse and to promote alternatives to mainstream care.

**MindFreedom International.** *Eugene, Oregon.* \$1,500 to win human rights and alternatives for people labeled with psychiatric disabilities.

## **LABOR RIGHTS**

**Comite de Barrio.** *El Paso, Texas.* \$1,600 to raise awareness and promote change in the dangerous environmental conditions facing South Central El Paso residents.

**Damayan Migrant Workers Association.** *New York, New York.* \$3,000 to educate and organize Filipino domestic workers to fight for economic and immigrant rights.

**Fuerza Laboral—Power of Workers.** *Central Falls, Rhode Island.* \$2,700 to empower immigrant and low-income workers to achieve fair, equal and dignified working conditions.

**Interfaith Action of Southwest Florida.** *Immokalee, Florida.* \$1,600 to organize the faith-based community to challenge corporate control of the agricultural industry, trade policies and systemic injustices that affect immigrant and migrant workers.

**Jobs with Justice - Kentucky.** *Louisville, Kentucky.* \$3,000 to campaign for economic justice and workers' rights. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Jobs with Justice - Rhode Island.** *Providence, Rhode Island.* \$3,000 for a coalition of labor, community, faith-based and student groups working for economic justice. *(Multi-year grant)*

**San Lucas Workers Center.** *Chicago, Illinois.* \$3,000 for U.S.-born and immigrant day laborers using direct action, community pressure, press exposure and policy work to force day labor agency owners to stop abusive practices. *(Multi-year grant)*

**Student/Farmworker Alliance.** *Immokalee, Florida.* \$3,000 to solidify the connection between farmworkers and students and to organize for an end to exploitative labor relations in the agricultural world. *(Multi-year grant)*

**UNETE, Center for Farm Worker Advocacy.** *Medford, Oregon.* \$3,000 to work for dignity and justice for farmworkers and immigrants.

**Vermont Workers' Center.** *Montpelier, Vermont.* \$3,000 for a workers' rights group organizing for economic justice, including livable wages, affordable health care and humane workplaces. *(Multi-year grant)*

## **MEDIA/CULTURE**

**Arlington West Film and Speakers Program.** *Los Angeles, California.* \$2,000 to bring people with personal experience in the Iraq War together with youth so that they can make educated decisions about military enlistment.

**Community Media Organizing Project.** *Knoxville, Tennessee.* \$1,500 for a partnership of seven grassroots community-based organizations who have joined together to increase their capacity for using media as an organizing tool.

**HONK!** *Cambridge, Massachusetts.* \$1,000 to support activist street bands that utilize the potential of music to spread awareness

of peace and justice issues to a diverse audience.

**Nuclear Resister.** *Tucson, Arizona.* \$500 to publish the *Nuclear Resister* which chronicles anti-nuclear/anti-war arrests and provides support for imprisoned resisters.

**Thin Air Community Radio.** *Spokane, Washington.* \$3,000 to produce radio programming with a social justice focus that provides media access to un-served or under-served communities. *(Multi-year grant)*

## **MIDDLE EAST**

**Committee for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine.** *Oak Park, Illinois.* \$1,600 to build awareness of the complexity of the issues involved in creating a just resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

## **NATIVE AMERICAN/NATIVE PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

**Alianza Indigena Sin Fronteras.** *Tucson, Arizona.* \$900 to promote respect for Indigenous human and civil rights and organize around sovereignty, border rights and environmental protection of Native lands and sacred sites.

## **PEACE/ANTI-MILITARISM**

**Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice.** *Albuquerque, New Mexico.* \$3,000 to link individuals and organizations concerned with peace, social justice and economic issues. *(Multi-year grant)*

**American Friends Service Committee - Vermont.** *Montpelier, Vermont.* \$3,000 to increase the capacities of individuals and communities for peace building and creating social and economic justice.

**Appalachian Peace and Justice Network.** *Athens, Ohio.* \$1,500 to engage in peace and anti-war organizing in Appalachian Ohio.

**Delaware County Wage Peace and Justice.** *Media, Pennsylvania.* \$1,000 to address the root causes of terrorism and war, to advocate for an end to the Iraq War and to preserve civil liberties.



Members of Kentucky Jobs with Justice, a RESIST grantee, work in coalition with many diverse organizing groups across the state.

*continued on page nine*



continued from page eight

**Eugene PeaceWorks.** *Eugene, Oregon.*

\$500 to work locally for global peace and environmental justice through direct action and mutual empowerment.

**GI Rights Hotline - New Mexico.**

*Albuquerque, New Mexico.* \$3,000 to provide support and resources for GIs, veterans and their families who have been hurt or left behind by the U.S. military, including conscientious objectors and military personnel organizing in resistance to war.

**Iraq Veterans Against the War - Boston.**

*Boston, Massachusetts.* \$2,000 to end the war in Iraq by building a broad-based movement with an express focus on resistance from within the U.S. military and veteran communities.

**Los Alamos Study Group.** *Albuquerque, New Mexico.*

\$1,500 to clarify the links between nuclear disarmament, environmental protection and social justice within both a technical and moral frame of reference.

**Manhattan Alliance for Peace and Justice Education Fund.** *Manhattan, Kansas.*

\$1,500 for a broad-based social justice organization that links peace and economic justice issues.

**No Military Recruitment in Our Schools.** *San Francisco, California.*

\$2,000 to oppose the presence of JROTC in the San Francisco school district.

**Peace Action - New Hampshire.** *Concord, New Hampshire.*

\$500 for an emergency grant to raise issues about the war and occupation in Iraq and the failure to use funds to meet human needs.

**Peace Action - New York State.** *New York, New York.*

\$1,000 to make the connections between the government's weapons and war policies and their local effects.

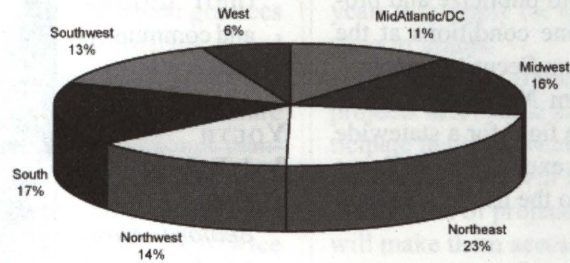
**Peace Action - Wisconsin.** *Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

\$3,000 to educate the public on issues of nuclear weapons, militarism, current interventions and conflicts and non-violence.

**Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine.** *Bangor, Maine.*

\$3,000 to link individuals and groups concerned with peace, social justice and environmental issues in eastern Maine. (Multi-year grant)

## Grant Distribution by Region



**Northeast**

Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont

**Midwest**

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, N. Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, S. Dakota, Wisconsin

**South**

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

**Northwest**

Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

**MidAtlantic**

Delaware, District of Columbia, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland

**West & Other**

Alaska, California, Hawaii, Puerto Rico

**Southwest**

Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Nevada

**Syracuse Peace Council.** *Syracuse, New York.* \$1,200 to organize toward a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist.

**Veterans for Peace - Bangor.** *Bangor, Maine.* \$500 to utilize the personal experiences of veterans to raise public awareness of the true costs and consequences of militarism and war and to seek peaceful alternatives.

**Veterans for Peace - Madison.** *Madison, Wisconsin.* \$1,000 to eliminate war as an acceptable component of foreign policy, resist military recruitment at the high school level and actively oppose the U.S. war in Iraq.

**Veterans for Peace - St. Louis.** *St. Louis, Missouri.* \$1,500 for a peace group advocating to stop the Iraq war and educate the public about the real financial and human cost of war.

**Whatcom Peace & Justice Center.** *Bellingham, Washington.* \$1,250 to oppose U.S. military action in the Middle East and to change U.S. foreign policy.

**Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice.** *Madison, Wisconsin.* \$1,500 to work for peace and justice in Wisconsin.

### PRISONERS' RIGHTS

**Carolina Justice Policy Center.** *Durham, North Carolina.* \$3,000 to

promote death penalty reform, alternatives to incarceration and fair criminal justice policies in North Carolina.

**Coalition for Prisoners' Rights.** *Santa Fe, New Mexico.* \$3,000 to work for systemic change by challenging the social and economic injustice inherent in the U.S. punishment system. (Multi-year grant)

**Critical Resistance - New York City.** *Bronx, New York.* \$3,000 to challenge New York's reliance on prisons and police as an answer to social and economic problems.

**Fight for Lifers - West.** *Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.* \$1,500 to advocate for more humane and effective laws for prisoners serving life sentences in Pennsylvania.

**First Nations Prison Industrial Complex Gathering.** *Oakland, California.* \$3,000 to bring together Native American criminal justice activists in order to build a community network addressing prisons.

**Prison and Jail Project.** *Americus, Georgia.* \$3,000 to challenge the corrupt and racist criminal justice system in southwest Georgia. (Multi-year grant)

**Students Against the Death Penalty.** *Austin, Texas.* \$1,600 to advocate for the end of the death penalty through public education and youth activism.

continued on page ten



*continued from page nine*

**Tamms Year Ten Campaign.** *Chicago, Illinois.* \$2,500 to publicize and protest the inhumane conditions at the Tamms Maximum Security Prison.

**Texas Moratorium Network.** *Austin, Texas.* \$1,600 to fight for a statewide moratorium on executions in Texas and for an end to the use of the death penalty.

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS

**9 to 5 Atlanta.** *Atlanta, Georgia.* \$3,000 to work for economic justice for women through advocacy, public education, leadership development, and direct action campaigns. (*Multi-year grant*)

**African Women's Coalition.** *Portland, Oregon.* \$1,600 for a group led by immigrant and refugee women from Africa who work with allies to empower African immigrants through leadership development, advocacy and educational opportunities.

**Democracy in Action.** *Rapid City, South Dakota.* \$2,500 for a grassroots movement of women working to bring about statewide progressive change.

**Idaho Women's Network.** *Boise, Idaho.* \$2,000 to strengthen democracy and promote human rights through community organizing, advocacy and education.

**INCITE! Denver.** *Denver, Colorado.* \$2,000 to end violence against women of color through direct action, critical dialogue, and grassroots organizing.

**New Mexico Women's Justice Project.** *Albuquerque, New Mexico.* \$1,000 to eliminate a broad range of systemic barriers to social, economic and political justice faced by women, girls and their families.

**Women in Transition.** *Louisville, Kentucky.* \$3,000 to organize for economic justice and rights for poor and working class people.

**Women's Institute for Leadership Development - WILD.** *Boston, Massachusetts.* \$1,600 to strengthen women's influence in the Massachusetts labor movement by increasing the number and diversity of women leaders and providing women with tools

to be effective organizers in their unions and community organizations.

## YOUTH

**3rd Eye Movement.** *New Bedford, Massachusetts.* \$3,000 for the development of youth leadership through mentoring, skill building, and organizing campaigns.

**Arts for Action.** *Oxnard, California.* \$1,000 to engage local youth in economic, environmental and social justice projects impacting their communities.

**Building Harmonies.** *Amherst, Massachusetts.* \$500 of emergency funding to print a banned issue of a school newspaper that opposed the school system's Zero Tolerance Policy.

**Coalition Against Militarism in Our Schools.** *South Pasadena, California.* \$3,000 to demilitarize schools and transform them into institutions where social justice, critical thinking and conflict resolution are at the center. (*Multi-year grant*)

**DREAM in Action.** *Boise, Idaho.* \$3,000 to use direct organizing tactics to build power and win campaigns for immigrant justice. (*Multi-year grant*)

**Education for Liberation Network.** *Brooklyn, New York.* \$1,500 for a national collaboration of educators, community activists and researchers exploring the link between education, social justice and activism.

**Parents & Youth United for a Better Webster County.** *Eupora, Mississippi.* \$2,000 to empower the local African-American community to work against racial discrimination in public schools and the criminal justice system.

**Reflect and Strengthen.** *Dorchester, Massachusetts.* \$3,000 to develop the



Tamms Year Ten members combine legislative work with education and protest to keep the issue of Tamms Supermax Prison in the public eye.

organizing skills, leadership capacity and political analysis of young low-income women in Boston. (*Multi-year grant*)

**Youth Against War and Racism.** *Minneapolis, Minnesota.* \$2,000 to organize high school students to oppose the war in Iraq and school-based military recruitment.

*continued from page three*

## Thin Air Community Radio Spokane, Washington

net and make public broadcasting a more robust voice in the national discourse.

- Stop allowing media consolidation, where fewer and fewer big corporations own more and more of the media.
- Promote localism and independent journalism.
- Promote diversity of voices and ownership.
- Give more rights to Low Power FM.

Want more information? Check out [freepress.net](http://freepress.net), the National Conference for Media Reform, Prometheus Radio Project and Reclaim the Media, and remember to support independent media wherever you live!

*KYRS-Thin Air Community Radio has been broadcasting non-commercial, independent news, views, culture and music since October 2003. Born in Spokane, Washington, Lupito Flores is Station Manager at KYRS.*



# RESIST GRANTS

Since its founding in 1967, RESIST has awarded thousands of timely grants to radical and progressive organizations working for social justice. Throughout the decades, the grant-making program has evolved in order to best respond to the needs and challenges of grassroots social change groups. Below are descriptions of the grants RESIST provides.

## General Support Grant Awards

In order to enable groups to build infrastructure and capacity while engaged in on-going social justice activism, RESIST grants provide general (rather than program specific) support.

RESIST believes that general support grants allow groups to focus on strengthening their movement-building and cross-issue organizing capacity. Project funding sometimes causes organizations to jump through hoops to appeal to funders. General support, which is reliable and flexible, enables groups to effectively carry out their missions and respond to new challenges and opportunities.

As former RESIST grantee Linda Meric of 9 to 5 Colorado noted:

*We try to apply for general support whenever we can. But we often feel that smaller funders, particularly, are pressing us to come up with projects. Wow—it's nice to get this level of support for on-going organizing. It gives us the flexibility to put money where we need it.*

Providing general support grants also helps to level the power imbalance between funders and grantees.

## Technical Assistance Grants

Many groups that apply to RESIST for funding also need other forms of assistance. Groups often require technical assistance to help with the nuts and bolts of starting, maintaining, and developing progressive organizations.

In keeping with RESIST's goal of building movement infrastructure and capacity, RESIST awards up to \$500 to enable existing grantees to participate in technical assistance opportunities.

Some of the areas for which grantees may receive assistance include: board and staff development, fundraising, fiscal management, computer and software training, Internet activism, strategic planning and basic organizing skills.

These funds are available for grantees who have been funded at least twice within the last five years. Funds are available quarterly and are dispersed on a first-come first-serve basis.

RESIST developed "A Guide to Technical Assistance" to help locate training opportunities. It is posted on our web page at [www.resistinc.org](http://www.resistinc.org).

## Other RESIST Grantmaking Efforts

In addition to the general support and technical assistance grants described above, RESIST's grantmaking program includes:

**Multi-Year Grants:** Grantees who have been funded by RESIST at least two times during the preceding five

years may apply for three-year general support grants.

**Accessibility Grants:** To support projects that enable all people to participate in the movement for social justice, RESIST will fund the additional costs of projects or events which will make them accessible to people with disabilities (e.g. signers for events, or wheelchair accessible venues) for amounts up to \$3,000.

**Emergency Grants:** Emergency grants of up to \$500 are designed to help groups respond quickly to unexpected organizing needs due to a political crisis.

**Loans:** A revolving loan fund is available for groups that are planning projects that are intended to raise money. Groups can also apply for advance payments on bus rentals to transport members to marches or rallies.

Further information about RESIST's grant program can be found on our web site at [www.resistinc.org](http://www.resistinc.org).

## Make your contribution count.

Your contribution to RESIST today will support hundreds of radical groups across the country. So take the plunge and become a RESIST Pledge! **We count on you**, and the groups we fund count on us.

Make a one-time gift or join the Pledge program and become a sustaining donor. In return for your pledge, we will keep you up-to-date on the groups your contributions make possible.

☐ I'll send you my pledge of \$\_\_\_\_\_ every month/quarter/six months/year (please circle one).

☐ Enclosed is an initial pledge contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Please automatically deduct my pledge from my credit card (below).

☐ Here is a one-time contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support your work.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Visa/Master Card # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes! Sign me up to receive email updates from RESIST.

**Cut out and submit form to:** RESIST • 259 Elm Street • Somerville • Massachusetts • 02144. *Donations are tax-deductible.*



*continued from page one*

## Operation Welcome Home Madison, Wisconsin

Tell them they can't keep closing down American factories. Bring business back to the U.S. End the corporate welfare that's giving billions of dollars away to multinational conglomerates!

Let's be real about the CEOs and execs getting government bailouts. Nobody's talking about THEM stealing from the public, nobody's criminalizing THEM. Make sure those resources go to the workers, the foundation of the economy. We want to hear you talk about poverty and racism. Let's be real and acknowledge that our society and economy is built on oppressing poor people and people of color, and our laws and services criminalize them.

Make the government more accessible for all people, so that each one can teach one. We want everyone represented, regardless of gender, sexuality, or skin color. Pull your brothers and sisters up. Pick your brothers and sisters UP! Bring them up with you, it's a process all along the way.

As people of color we've had everything taken from us through the history of this country. Let's talk about reparations.

We've had our education taken from us. Make part of reparations letting us go back to school on the government's dime and regaining what our people lost!

Let's build a world where nobody is pushed into cages, into alleyways, into closets, or behind walls of any kind. Cease the fear in your hearts.

With hope,  
Operation Welcome Home

*Operation Welcome Home is a collaborative of homeless and formerly homeless people of color and their allies organizing to address the root causes of homelessness—racism, poverty, and criminalization – in Madison, Wisconsin. They wrote this collectively, at one of their weekly political education and organizing meetings.*

*continued from page three*

## Center for Artistic Revolution Little Rock, Arkansas

stripped away, denied because they did not fit the definition of family according to religious conservatives. Marriage equality was denied in Florida, Arizona and California. Here in Arkansas, unmarried cohabitating same-sex and

heterosexual partners lost the right to be adoptive or foster parents.

I see the front of Little Rock's Central High School every day from my window; my granddaughter goes to school there. Each day it stands as a living reminder to me of how far we have come and how much farther we have to go. You see, in November I lost the right to adopt my granddaughter because of my sexual orientation.

If we are to build a stronger America then we must ensure that all of its citizens are equal under the law. There must be a place at the table for all Americans.

Mr. President, I wish you well as you embark upon your term. I hope that you will remember my family and my rainbow community when you face all the difficult tasks before you as you step to the business of rebuilding this country. I ask this of you as my President and as a man of the people, all of us. Remember, justice is not about "just us," it's about justice for all of us.

*Based in Little Rock, Arkansas, CAR works for equality for all Arkansans. Randi Romo is a Xicana, radical, activist, passionate, word-slinging, art-making queer warrior woman. She is the co-founder and Director of CAR.*

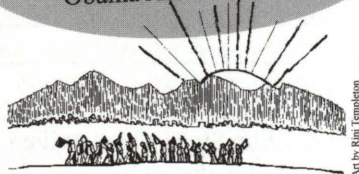
# RESIST

259 Elm Street, Suite 201  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144

[www.resistinc.org](http://www.resistinc.org)  
[info@resistinc.org](mailto:info@resistinc.org)  
617-623-5110

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Inside this issue:*  
2008 Grant Recipients &  
Organizers Give Advice to the  
Obama Administration



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BOSTON, MASS.  
PERMIT #2956